



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**  
4TH AIR NAVAL GUNFIRE LIAISON COMPANY  
MARINE FORCES RESERVE  
NAVAL AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE CENTER  
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1300  
CO  
29 May 19

From: (b)(6) 7566, USMCR  
To: Inspector-Instructor, 4th ANGLICO

Subj: COMMAND INVESTIGATION INTO THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES REGARDING  
THE SOCIAL MEDIA POST INVOLVING AN IMAGE OF FOUR MARINES IN UNIFORM  
MAKING THE SYMBOL OF A SWASTIKA WITH THEIR BOOTS THAT OCCURRED ON OR  
ABOUT 26 APRIL 2019

Ref: (a) JAGINST 5800.7F (JAGMAN)  
(b) ALMAR 008/17 SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE - UNOFFICIAL MEDIA POSTS  
(c) MCO 5354.1E MARINE CORPS PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES AND CONDUCT  
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Encl: (1) Investigating Officer Appointment Letter  
(2) PFC Schroader's Waiver of Rights and Written Statement  
(3) Audio File of PFC Schroader and Jerry Schroader (grandfather)  
Interview

- (4) (b)(6) Interview Summary
- (5) (b)(6) Interview Summary
- (6) (b)(6) Interview Summary
- (7) (b)(6) Interview Summary
- (8) Interview Summary
- (9) Interview Summary
- (10) (b)(6) Interview Summary
- (11) Interview Summary
- (12) Interview Summary
- (13) PFC Schroader Social Media Page 11 Entry
- (14) Screen-captures of the exchange between Terminal Lance and PFC Schroader
- (15) Screen-captures of the subsequent social media post by Terminal Lance
- (16) Screen-captures of the text conversation between PFC Schroader and (b)(6)

Preliminary Statement

1. Per enclosure (1) and in accordance with the reference, I was appointed to conduct a Command Investigation into the facts and circumstances regarding The Marine Forces Reserve (MARFORRES) CommStrat Department notification by the Communication Directorate that Terminal Lance posted a tweet, allegedly featuring Private First Class Anthony D. Schroader (b)(6) 0861 and three other Marines making a swastika with their boots as well as the Social Media exchange between the Twitter page of Terminal Lance (an online satirical publication) and SNM on or about April 26, 2019. In accordance with the reference, legal advice was directed and received from (b)(6) Command Legal Advisor, Force Headquarters Group (FHG), MARFORRES during the course of this command investigation. All reasonably available and relevant evidence was collected. This investigation relied heavily on interviews and statements submitted by relevant individuals.

2. In support of this Command Investigation, the following personnel were contacted:

a.	PFC Anthony D. Schroader,	Fire Supportman,	4th ANGLICO
b.			
c.		(b)(6)	
d.		Command Judge Advocate,	FHG
e.		Sergeant Major,	4th ANGLICO
f.		Administration Chief,	4th ANGLICO
g.		Administration NCO,	4th ANGLICO
h.		Executive Officer,	EWTGPAC
i.		Legal Officer,	EWTGPAC
j.	(b)(6)	FSM Course Chief,	EWTGPAC
k.		Sergeant Major,	2d ANGLICO
l.		Fire Supportman,	2d ANGLICO
m.		Fire Supportman,	HQ Battery, 1/11
n.		Fire Supportman,	HQ Battery, 5/14
o.		Fire Supportman,	HQ Battery, 3/14
p.		Fire Supportman,	
q.		Fire Supportman,	
r.		Fire Supportman,	H Battery, 3/14

3. All attempts to identify other Marines involved in the picture were taken.

#### Findings of Fact

1. PFC Schroader signed the Social Media Page 11 entry in accordance with ALMAR 008/17. [encl (1)]

2. PFC Schroader took a picture of four Marines placing their feet in the shape of a swastika while wearing MARPAT uniform trousers and issued boots outside the San Clemente Island Chow Hall between 15 and 17 April 2019. PFC Schroader was in an active duty status during this time. [encls (2), (3), (5)]

3. PFC Schroader sent a direct SnapChat message containing a picture to the editorial account of Terminal Lance, a satirical comic, blog and online publication, on 26 April 2019 and subsequently had a short, written exchange. PFC Schroader was not in a duty status during this time and the conversation was private (not a public post). [encls (2), (3), (14), (15)]

4. PFC Schroader was not under the influence of any substance when he made the decision to send the picture to the editor of Terminal Lance. [encl (3)]

5. The picture and conversation between PFC Schroader and the account manager of Terminal Lance were private communications until the account manager made it public by reposting it with comments on Twitter on 29 April, 2019. [encls (3), (14), (15)]

6. By his own testimony, and by the unanimous testimonies of his classmates and lead instructor, PFC Schroader had no hidden or overt racist or anti-Semitic sentiments or agenda. PFC Schroader does not demonstrate or have a reputation of racism or anti-Semitism. His close friend in the course was Hispanic, his grandfather is Jewish and his cousin is in the Israeli Defense Force. [encls (2), (3), (5-13)]

7. PFC Schroader was not on orders during the time of his interaction with the Terminal Lance editor and is not subject to punitive action but is subject to administrative action as a result of his violation of ref (b).

8. PFC Schroader was on orders when he and the other Marines made the swastika sign and took the picture with intent to retain or distribute which is a violation of ref (c).

9. While it is likely that some of the Marines interviewed knew the others involved in the picture, their identities could not be established with any reasonable certainty.

#### Opinions

(b)(5)

#### Recommendation

(b)(6)